

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0277

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, MARR

SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: FINANCING FOR UNIFIL

REF: USUN 1056

1. MISOFF CALLED MORTEZA TALIEH (IRAN), CHAIRMAN OF FIFTH COMMITTEE AT 32ND UNGA, TO PROBE HIS THINKING REGARDING SPECIAL SESSION ON UNIFIL FINANCING (PARA 5 REFTEL).

TALIEH CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD SPENT AN HOUR DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH UNGA PRESIDENT MOJSOV. MOJSOV HAD ORIGINALLY WANTED SPECIAL SESSION ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY APRIL 22 AND 23, BUT WAS DISSUADED WHEN TALIEH POINTED OUT THEY COINCIDED WITH PASSOVER. MOJSOV THEN AGREED TO APRIL 20 AND 21.

2. TALIEH SAID HE HAD PRESSED MOJSOV HARD TO PERMIT A FULL WEEK FOR A SPECIAL SESSION, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. TALIEH BELIEVES CONSIDERABLE TIME WILL BE REQUIRED TO NEGOTIATE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PREDICTED SOVIETS AND EAST EUROPEANS WOULD TAKE A HARD LINE OVER ASSESSMENT SCALE TO BE ADOPTED. TALIEH AND MOJSOV ARE IN AGREEMENT THAT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON ASSESSMENT SCALE SHOULD BEGIN AT AN EARLY DATE.

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3. TALIEH PLANS TO CONTACT SOVIET MISSION AS SOON AS HE HAS RECEIVED A FORMAL, WRITTEN NOTIFICATION FROM MOJSOV MAKING HIM RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING THESE CONSULTATIONS. (MOJSOV IS LEAVING NEW YORK SHORTLY AND IS RETURNING ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE SPECIAL SESSION.) AFTER SOUNDING OUT SOVIETS, TALIEH PLANS TO SOUND OUT US ON ITS THINKING REGARDING SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS AND FINANCING FOR UNIFIL.

HE NEXT PLANS TO ARRANGE A BILATERAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN USUN AND SMUN, WITH POSSIBILITY OF ADDING A FEW MORE DELEGATIONS LATER IF THAT SEEMS USEFUL TO US AND SOVIETS.

4. MISOFF POINTED OUT TO TALIEH THAT WHILE TROYANOVSKY HAD STATED IN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 THAT ISRAEL SHOULD PAY FULL COST OF UNIFIL, HE HAD AVOIDED STATING ON THE RECORD THAT SOVIETS WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF UNIFIL. ALSO, IN INFORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS MARCH 20 TROYANOVSKY HAD TOLD SC PRESIDENT RICHARD THAT SOVIETS DID NOT "INSIST" SOVIET RESERVATION BE MENTIONED IN RICHARD'S REPLY TO WALDHEIM'S LETTER ON STEPS TAKEN TO SET UP UNIFIL.

5. TALIEH THERE UPON MODIFIED HIS PREDICTION AND SAID THAT SYRIA'S ATTITUDE WOULD BE REAL KEY TO THE SITUATION. SYRIANS MIGHT WANT TO SEE AN EFFECTIVE BUFFER IN SOUTH LEBANON SO THAT ADDITIONAL SYRIAN RESOURCES DO NOT HAVE TO BE DIVERTED THERE.

6. COMMENT: IF TALIEH SUCCEEDS IN GETTING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS UNDER WAY SOON, USUN MIGHT NEED INITIAL NEGOTIATING POSITION ON ASSESSMENTS AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK. END COMMENT. LEONARD

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